

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday January 14th, 2024

Tipperary Amateur Radio Group

The next meeting of the Tipperary Amateur Radio Group will be held at The Princess Bar, Irishtown Upper, Clonmel, Co Tipperary on Wednesday the 17th of January 2024 at 8 p.m. The Eircode for this venue is E91 PW90. The meeting is open to all, and Shortwave Listeners are in particular, very welcome to attend. For more information about Tipperary Amateur Radio Group, visit their group website at www.ei7trg.ie

Limerick Clare Amateur Radio Club Updates

The Limerick Clare Amateur Radio Club Rally will be held on Sunday February 25th in the Temple Gate Hotel, Ennis. This is the same venue as last year and doors will open at 11.00 a.m. All the main traders will be present and there will be an extensive bring and buy section. Tables for the event are filling up and if you require one or more, please contact Dermot Gleeson at [dermotgleeson1 /at/ gmail.com](mailto:dermotgleeson1/at/gmail.com).

Following the successful activation of their club station in the Shannon Aviation Museum, call sign EI4SAM, every Saturday for most of 2023, the club will continue with this during 2024. Volunteers are always required to operate the station and licensed amateurs as well as SWLs are more than welcome. Activation is usually between 11.00 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. initially on 7.123 MHz plus or minus QRM, followed by a check on other bands.

Limerick Clare Amateur Radio Club's popular monthly coffee morning will resume in the Shannon Aviation Museum at 11.00 a.m. on January 25th.

The club's Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday February 15th in the University of the Shannon, Midlands, Midwest at Moylish at 7.30 p.m. All members are encouraged to attend. A separate notification will issue shortly in this regard.

IRTS AGM Weekend and Shannon Basin Radio Club Rally Update

As a reminder, the 2024 IRTS AGM Weekend hosted by Shannon Basin Radio Club will be held in the Shearwater Hotel in Ballinasloe, Co. Galway over the weekend of April 13th and 14th, 2024. All rooms originally available using the specially reduced room rate have been booked however the club has now secured a limited number of additional rooms under the same deal. You are advised you to call or email the hotel as soon as possible to secure one if you have not done so already. The price is per room and includes breakfast. Please quote reference 501365 when making your bookings over the phone or via email to the hotel. The Shearwater Hotel may be contacted at +353 90 9630400 or via email to [info /at/ shearwaterhotel.com](mailto:info/at/shearwaterhotel.com).

If you have not booked trader or club tables for the Shannon Basin Radio Club rally that is part of the weekend activities, you are advised to contact admin /at/ sbrc.ie as soon as possible. Demand has been high and only a few available spots remain. Additional details can be found at www.sbrc.ie/agmweekend

IARU Monitoring System Region 1 December Newsletter

The December 2023 edition of the IARU Region 1 Monitoring System newsletter has been published. From this issue onwards, they announce that some videos about the discussed signals recorded during the issue s month will be included. This adds a new and welcome dynamic to the reports enabling you see to see the characteristics of the intruder and/or interference source for yourself. The newsletter and further information about the IARU activities may be found at www.iaru-r1.org

Upcoming Contests

The 2024 CQ Worldwide 160m CW contest takes place from 10 p.m. on January 26th until 10 p.m. on January 28th. All times are local. This is intended for amateurs around the world to contact other amateurs in as many U.S. states, Canadian provinces, and countries as possible on the 160-meter band.

The RSGB is running a data modes contest on the 80m and 40m bands today from 13:00 UTC until 17:00 UTC. On Saturday January 20th, they will host their SSB contest on the same bands. This contest will also run for four hours starting from 13:00 UTC. You can find out more about these affiliated society contests at www.rsgbcc.org

Eirpak Packet Radio Network in the Midlands

Last year, a terrestrial amateur radio packet network was established in the midlands region of Ireland. Called the Eirpak network, it operates on 144.950 MHz using 1200 baud packet radio. It is still active and continues to expand. Any operators interested in knocking the dust off any packet modems in the shack and trying to connect or even extend the network are very welcome.

Shortwave Listening - Numbers Stations

Short Wave Listeners may be interested to learn that special programming focusing on number stations will be broadcast today. The broadcasts by a station called ShortWave Gold will be on 6.160 MHz from 14:00 UTC and 3.975MHz from 21:00 UTC. These target listeners in European countries. Tomorrow morning, Monday January 15th, night owls can also try receiving a similar broadcast on 9.395 MHz via Radio Miami International WRMI from 03:00 UTC. These are opportunities to try one-time pads to decode the numbers. Further information may be found at the "SWL Post" blog located at www.swling.com/blog/

Items for Inclusion in Next Week's Radio News

That is the news for this week. Items for inclusion in next week's radio news can be submitted by email to newsteam /at/ irts.ie for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. The deadline is midnight on Thursday.

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